

## **AMENDMENTS**

### **In the Claims**

The following is a marked-up version of the claims with the language that is underlined (“\_\_\_”) being added and the language that contains strikethrough (“—”) being deleted:

1. – 4 (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A communication method comprising:

displaying a first instant messaging (IM) ~~message;~~ message of an IM session between a user and a contact;

calculating an elapsed time from the displaying of the first IM message;

determining whether a second IM message has been displayed within the elapsed time;

displaying a first time indication, the first time indication being associated with the first IM message, the first time indication being displayed in response to determining that the second IM message has not been displayed within the elapsed time, the first time indication displaying a time that the first message was ~~sent;~~ sent; and

querying the user to determine whether to include a termination time indication for an IM log of the IM session, the termination time indication indicating a time the IM session terminated.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein ~~the step of~~ displaying the first IM message comprises:

providing an IM dialogue box within an IM chat window; and

displaying the first IM message within the IM dialogue box.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein displaying the first time

indication comprises:

displaying the first time indication in the IM dialogue box.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein displaying the first time indication comprises:

displaying a first visual delineator after the first IM message, the first visual delineator having a time associated with the first IM message.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising:  
displaying a second IM message after the elapsed time;  
displaying a second time indication, the second time indication being associated with the second IM message, the second time indication being indicative of the elapsed time between the first IM message and the second IM message.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein displaying the second time indication comprises:

displaying a second visual delineator before the second IM message, the second visual delineator having a time associated with the second IM message.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein displaying the second visual delineator comprises:

providing an IM dialogue box within an IM chat window; and  
displaying the second visual delineator in the IM dialogue box.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

providing a status area within the IM chat window, the status area being distinct from the

IM dialogue box; and

selectively displaying a most-recently-displayed IM time in the IM dialogue box, the most-recently-displayed IM time being associated with the most-recently-displayed IM message.

13. – 19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable ~~storage~~ medium ~~comprising: that~~ includes a program, such that when executed by a computer, performs at least the following:

~~a processor; and~~

~~a memory configured to store:~~

~~computer readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to~~ provide for  
display a first instant messaging (IM) ~~message; message of an IM session between a user and~~  
a contact;

~~computer readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to calculate an~~  
elapsed time from the computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to  
display of the first IM message;

~~computer readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to determine~~  
whether a second IM message has been displayed within the elapsed time;

~~computer readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to~~ provide for  
display a first time indication, the first time indication being associated with the first IM message,  
the first time indication being displayed in response to computer-readable code adapted to  
instruct a programmable device to determine that the second IM message has not been  
displayed within the elapsed time, the first time indication displaying a time that the first  
message was ~~sent; sent; and~~

query the user to determine whether to include a termination time indication for an IM log  
of the IM session, the termination time indication indicating a time the IM session terminated.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 20, ~~the memory further configured to store:~~ further configured to perform at least the following:

~~computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to provide an IM dialogue box within an IM chat window; and~~

~~computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to~~ provide for display the first IM message within the IM dialogue box.

22. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 21, ~~the memory further configured to store:~~ further configured to perform at least the following:

~~computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to~~ provide for display the first time indication in the IM dialogue box.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 20 ~~the memory further configured to store:~~ 20, further configured to perform at least the following:

~~computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to~~ provide for display a first visual delineator after the first IM message, the first visual delineator having a time associated with the first IM message.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 20, ~~the memory further configured to store:~~ further configured to perform at least the following:

~~computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to~~ provide for display a second IM message after the elapsed time;

~~computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to~~ provide for display a second time indication, the second time indication being associated with the second IM message, the second time indication being indicative of the elapsed time between the first IM

message and the second IM message.

25. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 24, ~~the memory further configured to store:~~ further configured to perform at least the following:

~~computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to~~ provide for display a second visual delineator before the second IM message, the second visual delineator having a time associated with the second IM message.

26. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 25, ~~the memory further configured to store:~~ further configured to perform at least the following:

~~computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to~~ provide an IM dialogue box within an IM chat window; and

~~computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to~~ provide for display the second visual delineator in the IM dialogue box.

27. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 26, ~~the memory further configured to store:~~ further configured to perform at least the following:

~~computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to~~ provide a status area within the IM chat window, the status area being distinct from the IM dialogue box; and

~~computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to~~ selectively provide for display a most-recently-displayed IM time in the IM dialogue box, the most-recently-displayed IM time being associated with the most-recently-displayed IM message.

28. – 37. (Canceled)

38. (Previously Presented) A communication system comprising:

a memory component that stores at least the following:

message-display logic configured to display a first instant messaging (IM)

~~message;~~ message of an IM session between a user and a contact;

time-calculation logic configured to calculate an elapsed time from the display of the first IM message;

determination logic configured to determine whether a second IM message has been displayed within the elapsed time;

time-display logic configured to display a first time indication, the first time indication being associated with the first IM message, the first time indication being displayed in response to determine that the second IM message has not been displayed within the elapsed time, the first time indication displaying the time the first message was ~~sent~~; sent; and

query logic configured to query the user to determine whether to include a termination time indication for an IM log of the IM session, the termination time indication indicating a time the IM session terminated.

39. – 43. (Canceled)